THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) With the coming into force of the Electricity Act, 2003, and the consequent repeal of the earlier Central Acts of the power sector the Electricity Boards (SEBs) constituted under the repealed Acts were, under the provisions of Section 172 (a) of the Electricity Act, 2003, deemed to be the State Transmission Utilities and Licensees for a period upto one year, and thereafter for such further period as may be mutually decided upon by the Central Government and the concerned State Government. Section 172(c) of the Electrictiy Act, 2003 further provides that the undertakings of SEBs may, after the expiry of the period specified in Section 172 (a), be transferred in accordance with the provisions of Part XIII of the Electricity Act, 2003. Part XIII of the Act provides for transfer by the State Government of any property, interest in property, rights and liabilities of SEBs to a Government company or in a company or companies in terms of the provisions of that Part.

Thirteen States have so far reorganized their SEBs. Ten States (Orissa, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Delhi, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh) had reorganized their SEBs under their respective State Electricity Reform Acts, enacted before enactment of the Electricity Act, 2003. Assam, Maharashtra and West Bengal have reorganized their SEBs under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. Government of Tripura has corporatized its Electricity Department.

Eight States (Bihar, Jharkhand, Kerala, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya and Himachal Pradesh) have been requesting the Central Government under Section 172(a) of the Electricity Act, 2003 to agree for extensions of time for reorganization of their respective SEBs, which have been agreed to.

According to information received from Government of Chhattisgarh, there is opposition from officers and employees unions of Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board (CSEB); in Jharkhand, there is some resistance among employees.

Cost of CFLs

3657. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Energy Efficiency has issued guidelines to provide Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) at the prices of the common electric bulbs in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government has taken for implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency has prepared a detailed scheme to provide Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) at the price of common electric bulbs in the country by leveraging the revenue from Certified Emission Rights (CERs) under the Clean Development that will accrue as a result of reduced energy consumption by use of CFLs. All the States have been requested to participate in the scheme.